

REMARKS

The Office Action dated August 31, 2010 has been reviewed and carefully considered. Claims 1-4 and 9-72 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Accordingly, claims 5-8 now remain in the application with claims 5, 7 and 8 being the only independent claims. Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3, 10-12, 15, 17, 27-29, 32, 34-41, 44, 46-49, 52-54, 57, 59, 60, 68, 69, 71, and 72 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Zon (U.S. PUGPub 2003/1569073). Claims 1-3, 10-12, 15, 17, 27-29, 32, 34-41, 44, 46-49, 52-54, 57, 59, 60, 68, 69, 71, and 72 also stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being unpatentable over Cheng et al. (U.S. PUGPub 2004/0048663). Claims 4, 9, 13, 14, 16, 18-26, 30, 31, 33, 42, 43, 45, 50, 51, 55, 56, 58, 61-67 and 70 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Zon in view of Silverstein (EP 1130906). Claims 4, 9, 13, 14, 16, 18-26, 30, 31, 33, 42, 43, 45, 50, 51, 55, 56, 58, 61-67 and 70 also stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Cheng in view of Silverstein (EP 1130906).

Applicants note with appreciation the indication that claims 5-8 would be allowable if rewritten so as not to depend from a rejected claim, and with no change in scope. In the interests of furthering prosecution these claims have been so rewritten, and are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSIONS

Applicants deny any statement, position or averment stated in the Office Action that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing. Any rejection and/or points of argument not addressed are moot in view of the presented arguments and no arguments are waived and none of the statements and/or assertions made in the Office Action is conceded.

For the amendments made to the claims and for the remarks made, herein, applicants submit that the reason for the rejection of the claims has been overcome and respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn and a Notice of Allowance be issued.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: November 19, 2010

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